FR9-99-0018 PATENT

REMARKS

The Application is in condition for allowance except for certain informalities. Claims 1-27 are pending. Claims 1-20 are allowed.

I. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112:

The Examiner has rejected Claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as having insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "said candidate routes" in line 9 of Claim 21. The Applicants have amended Claim 21 to correct the typographical error and changed "routes" to "routers." Therefore, the Applicants assert that the rejections of Claim 21 and Claims 22-27 depending therefrom are traversed.

II. CONCLUSION

As a result of the foregoing, it is asserted by Applicants that Claims 1-27 in the Application are in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request an allowance of such claims. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call Applicants' attorney at the below listed number if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C.

Attorneys for Applicants

Richard F. Frankeny

Reg. No. 47,573

Kelly K. Kordzik

Reg. No. 36,571

P.O. Box 50784 Dallas, Texas 75201 (512) 370-2872